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Brownies score 8 in
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AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

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FEEDING HILLS CENTER

School traffic drives delay in roadwork

State will take time to consider Granger safety in re-engineering of Route 57 crossroad

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Traffic improvements aren't coming to Feeding Hills Center this year.

The state-funded intersection project will have to wait a year for engineers to incorporate Granger

School's driveways, which had not previously been part of the plan, in its scope.

"The state contacted us and asked to have the design include some safety provisions for Granger School," said Mayor Richard Cohen this week. "I am very happy the state is being so gracious

to include the school in its plans to improve traffic in the area."

The school has entrances on both Springfield and South Westfield streets, which carry traffic east and south, respectively, from the often congested intersection. The other two roads at the four-way crossing are Southwick

Street, to the west, and North Westfield Street. With through traffic along Route 187 and turning traffic for Route 57, Feeding Hills Center is one of the town's top auto accident locations.

While no accident data was

ROAD | page 6

RECYCLING

Counting down to zero waste

By Michael J. Ballway
mballway@turley.com

Former Agawam High School teacher Nancy Bobskill was back delivering a lesson earlier this month.

Lately, instead of the coursework she used to assign to AP Environmental Science students, Bobskill and her sidekick, Helga the hen, have been educating Agawam residents and Internet visitors on reducing the amount of trash they throw away.

The United States has 5 percent of the world's population and produces 30 percent of the trash, Bobskill said in a presentation at the Agawam Public Library on April 12, largely because of our disposable and heavily packaged consumer products. She asked her audience to think of how much of what they take home from the store ends up in the trash can just days — if not hours — later, once the core product has been unboxed or eaten.

"Most of our stuff is designed for the dump," she said.

Those bulging trash bags aren't only wasteful of the trash itself, Bobskill added. Each ton of additional trash also adds to the amount of time and energy — including fuel oil and electricity — needed to collect it and bring it to a disposal facility.

Cutting down on trash isn't an abstract ecological goal, Bobskill said. She noted that new trash facilities tend to be built in poor or minority neighborhoods where

WASTE | page 7



Above: Despite a sign showing a major fine for dumping, trash continues to be an issue at Pynchon Point and along the Connecticut and Westfield rivers.

Right: Volunteer Alyssa Gravel, 16, shows a bag full of trash she collected at Pynchon Point in Agawam during the Westfield River Watershed Association's river cleanup Saturday morning. More photos, page 11. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Taking out the trash



EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING



Agawam's Excellence in Teaching Award winners are, from left, Tricia Bushey, Catherine Gomes, Shannon Oldenburg, Anita Quinn and Kaitlin Reilly. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

'Extraordinary' teachers, paraprofessionals to be awarded next week

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Every year, School Superintendent William Sapelli faces a tough choice: selecting five teachers to receive a Pioneer Valley Excellence in Teaching Award from the more than two dozen Agawam teachers nominated for the award.

What makes his decision so difficult is that all the nominees "are worthy" of the award, he said. Among this year's 32 nominees were Tricia Bushey, Catherine Gomes, Shannon Oldenburg, Anita Quinn, and Kaitlin Reilly. They will receive awards Thursday, May 4, at a celebration dinner at the Log Cabin in Holyoke.

This marks the 13th year the

award will be presented to celebrate excellence in education by recognizing teachers selected by their peers and administrators for their exceptional teaching. Agawam's teachers are among 143 teachers from 38 school systems in Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties honored this year.

In addition to the award, each

teacher will receive \$500 for their personal use, an engraved plaque, a letter of commendation from Gov. Charlie Baker, a three-month membership to a local YMCA or the Jewish Community Center, and a grant for a graduate course at either Bay Path University, Elms College, Westfield State University, or Western New England University.

Sapelli said it's important to acknowledge, support, and encourage these "extraordinary" teachers. Read on to learn why these five teachers are being recognized for their dedication to students as well as their outstanding commitment to the teaching profession.

AWARDS | page 10



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Adults-only coloring returns May 16

Back by popular demand, Coloring for Grown-Ups will take place at 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 16, at the Agawam Public Library. All coloring pages and supplies will be provided. To register for this adults-only program, call 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or register online at www.agawamlibrary.org. The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

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Spray park opening later

In an effort to save money, the splash pad at School Street Park will open later on the calendar and later in the day this year than it did in 2015, its first year of operation.

Parks and Recreation Director Christopher Sparks said last week that the water jets at the spray park won't turn on until late June, "first of July at the latest." In 2015, the park opened on June 10. Additionally, once the summer season begins, the water will turn on at 11 a.m. daily, instead of last year's 10 a.m. The park will still stay open until 7 p.m.

How soon the park opens in June will depend on how much money is available in the Parks and Rec. budget, Sparks said. With the shorter operating hours, if it opens July 1, the town will save \$8,000 in water bills from last year's expense. An earlier opening date would reduce those savings.

Soldier On gets \$10M loan to build veterans housing

Citizens Bank's Community Development Lending Group is providing \$10 million in construction financing to Soldier On Inc. for the adaptive reuse of the former policy academy in Agawam into a 51-unit affordable housing development for military veterans.

Soldier On is a nonprofit that provides social services and transitional and permanent housing for veterans.

The Citizens loan will be used to help turn the former Western Massachusetts Regional Police Academy at 702 S. Westfield St. into the new Gordon H. Mansfield Veterans Village. The design calls for 51 studio apartments, dining facilities and offices. A 56-by-56-foot, single-story annex will be built and attached to the main building by a covered walkway. Thirteen of the units are reserved for veterans at or below 30 percent of the area's median income, and 38 units for veterans at or below 60 percent.

"We value our partnership with Citizens and appreciate the banking team's great ideas and timely execution," said Soldier On Chief Financial Officer Bruce Buckley. "Citizens' commitment to affordable housing and military veterans is clear. Their experience with these types of transactions makes a big difference."

"We are very pleased to be part of the Gordon H. Mansfield Veterans Village development and to be able to help the Soldier On team achieve its strategic and financial goals," said Jerry Sargent, Massachusetts president of Citizens Bank. "Citizens is committed to supporting affordable housing and military veterans so this was a really great project for us."

For more information, visit www.citizensbank.com.

Agawam Advertiser News

OBITUARY POLICY

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One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$75, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.



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You Asked?

Artificial field filler said to be safe

Does anyone know what kind of turf is going to be used in the new fields at the high school?
— Amy, on "Agawam, MA Open Forum" at Facebook.com

Most of Agawam High School's new athletic fields, currently under construction, will be surfaced with natural grass, but the centerpiece of the project is a new multi-purpose field — to be used for football, soccer, field hockey and lacrosse games — of artificial turf, ringed by an artificial-surfaced running track.

That's led some in town to question whether Agawam will use the latest generation of artificial turf technology, which includes tiny rubber pellets among the artificial grass blades as cushioning. The pellets, usually made of recycled tires, have attracted controversy for their potential effect on the health of athletes who rub against them or inadvertently inhale them during sports falls and tackles.

Yes, Agawam will have fields with what's called "crumb rubber," according to town Procurement Officer Jennifer Bonfiglio, though she added that the town "really did our homework on this" and has determined there is no cause for concern.

In November 2015, the engineers that worked on planning the fields project, Milone & MacBroom Inc., sent the town a letter about the use of recycled rubber fill.

"Extensive study has already



Rubber pellets on the new Agawam High School football field —currently under construction — won't be a health risk for players, scientists say. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

been conducted by countless scientists and health professionals," the letter read. "These studies all have strikingly similar conclusions: The crumb rubber does contain a variety of constituents, but mostly at very low absolute concentrations that do not represent a human health risk."

According to the letter, Milone & MacBroom conducted its own study in 2008, and has followed more recent studies performed in Connecticut, California and New York, as well as studies by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the governments of France and Norway.

The letter also cites a peer-reviewed study by the Connecticut state toxicologist that concluded that crumb rubber poses no sig-

nificant cancer risk or non-cancer health risk for child or adult athletes.

"There have been no scientific studies of which we are aware that demonstrate a human health risk," the letter added. "All current reports of risks are based upon non-scientific evaluations."

The field project is expected to be finished in time for the 2017-18 school year.

Written by Michael J. Ballway. "You Asked?" is an occasional series of short articles answering questions of local interest from Agawam Advertiser News readers and social media. See something around town you'd like to know more about? Email your question to aan@turley.com.



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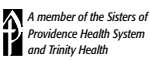
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Opinion

OUR VIEW

A new season for giving

Need knows no season, but hopefully Valley Gives — the one-day regional fundraiser serving needs across Western Massachusetts — has finally found its time.

It's been more than a year since the last Valley Gives day, held in December 2014. Organizers of the annual event chose not to come back for a fourth straight December date in 2015, and instead find a spring date in 2016 when they wouldn't conflict with other end-of-the-year fundraisers, or with holiday shopping season.

That date has been set as May 3, next Tuesday. Any time that day, from midnight to 11:59 p.m., donors can visit valleygives.razoo.com and give any gift over \$10 to any of the participating nonprofits in the Pioneer Valley.

Unlike December, where the holiday season coincides with the end of the calendar year, or June, the last month of the fiscal year for many schools and nonprofit groups, May isn't a "typical" month for a spike in charitable giving. Though much of Valley Gives' appeal in the past was rooted in the charitable traditions of the Christmas season, moving an established event to May could provide a whole new season of giving, potentially doubling — or at least, greatly increasing — the benefit to nonprofits, which continue to raise funds without Valley Gives each December. Most donors budget for an increase in philanthropy in December, but it's worth noting that many of us received tax refunds recently. Early May, just two weeks after the income tax filing deadline, might be the best time of the year to catch us with a little extra cash to support a good cause.

The good causes include some of the Pioneer Valley's heavy hitters: the scouts, the United Way, Habitat for Humanity and others. But it also provides much-needed exposure, and the potential to win relatively large prizes, for smaller, local organizations. Two Agawam nonprofits, the National Association of Mental Illness, Western Massachusetts chapter; and Feline Friends Cat Sanctuary of Feeding Hills, are on the Valley Gives participant list this year. Several smaller-scale groups from neighboring Westfield and West Springfield, including the Amelia Park Children's Museum, Westfield River Watershed Association and Majestic Theater, are also taking part.

One of the benefits of giving money via Valley Gives, rather than donating directly to the organization, is that each donation also enters the recipient into hourly raffles for "golden ticket" prizes of \$500 or \$1,000 each. Additionally, Valley Gives will add \$50 to the first gift of the first 500 new donors — those who have not given to previous Valley Gives events — on May 3. Participating nonprofits can qualify for matching gifts of \$2,500 or \$5,000 if they meet those targets. The top organizations in terms of number of unique donors will qualify for \$5,000, \$4,000 and \$3,000 prizes — for first, second and third place, respectively, in three size categories. While larger nonprofits will certainly appreciate the bonus, the various prizes and matches could have a massive impact on small, local nonprofits.

We'll know next week if Valley Gives' move to May was a success. With your help, it can be.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.

Let us know

The Agawam Advertiser News, your community newspaper, welcomes letters, submissions, photographs and news tips from residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills.

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Our office is open Monday through Thursday mornings, and other weekday times by appointment.



Letter to the Editor

Affordable housing not limited to low income

We would like to thank the Agawam Advertiser News for the excellent article in the April 14, 2016 edition about the Agawam Housing Needs Assessment, and provide some additional information.

First, it is important to be clear that affordable housing is for moderate as well as low income individuals and families. The FY 2016 HUD income limits for the Springfield metro area, which includes Agawam, are, for example, up to \$46,000 for a single individual and up to \$65,700 for a family of four.

Also, the Agawam Housing Committee and town of Agawam have applied to the state Department of Housing and Community Development for a grant to fund the

Housing Production Plan mentioned in the article. Extensive public input will be a key element in developing this plan.

A copy of the final version of the Agawam Housing Needs Assessment will be available for review by the public at the Agawam Public Library in May.

James P. Cichetti

President, Agawam City Council
Chairman, Agawam Housing Committee

Corinne M. Wingard

Chairman, Board of Commissioners,
Agawam Housing Authority
Vice-Chairman,
Agawam Housing Committee

FAITH MATTERS

Lost and found

If you have ever been lost, then you know the feeling of relief and joy that you have when you are found. And the more lost that you think you are, the better being found feels. However, if you have ever been found when you didn't think you were lost, you also know what that feels like. You don't really care, and there is no joy or relief. Even if you were horribly lost, if you didn't know you were lost, you didn't feel any need to be found.

As members of the human race, we are all horribly lost. The problem is that many of us don't feel all that lost, or even lost at all. The result is that we aren't looking to be found and if someone told us that they knew how we could be found, we wouldn't care what they had to say. Until we realize that we are lost, being found doesn't mean anything to us. This is why so many people don't really care about Jesus dying on a cross or the tomb being empty. Those two events point to a need that we have because we are so horribly lost and need to find the grace of God.

We have become a culture that thinks that humans in general are good people. Because we are good people, we can do just fine on our own making ourselves good enough to get into heaven. We don't need a savior or an empty tomb; we just need ourselves. We also have grown to believe that because humans are basically good, we all deserve heaven. For anyone to suggest that a loving God would send people to a place of eternal torment seems absurd to us.

The Bible tells a very different story. There, God says we are not basically good, we are sinful. God also informs us that to attain heaven we need to be perfect, and

being sinful makes us imperfect.

If perfection is the standard for heaven, even those who believe humans are basically good would have to agree that we need help. God knew we needed help to become perfect, which is why He sent His only Son, Jesus. Jesus came to pay the price our sin had earned — death. It was a price we could never pay on our own, and that's why Jesus had to come. The empty tomb lets us know that God has

the authority to punish sins, but also the power to overcome death.

In God's view of humans, we are all deserving of Hell because we are sinners, but God loved us so much He didn't want us to go there, so He provided a way to avoid Hell. That comes through the gift of His Son, Jesus, who did everything for us when He died on the cross. The question that is left for us is whether we will accept Jesus' free gift, or not. Sadly, for many who believe we are basically good, we see no need for the gift Jesus is offering, so we reject it. Take stock today of this offer from Jesus; to deny it has eternal consequences, so be sure of where you stand.

Brad Peterson is pastor at Hope Community Church at 152 S. Westfield St. in Feeding Hills.



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must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Monday at Noon. Please send letters to *Agawam Advertiser News*, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 380 Union Street, Suite 52; West Springfield, MA 01089 or e-mail aan@turley.com.



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Expo history on display at Fire House

By Michael J. Ballway
mballway@turley.com

It must be getting warmer — the Big E is here.

Not the 2016 version of the Eastern States Exposition, not yet. But the Agawam Historical and Fire House Museum last weekend premiered its exhibit with photographs, artifacts and history of “New England’s Great State Fair,” which has been held for the past 100 years at the exposition grounds just over the bridge from Agawam.

Town historian David Cecchi curated the exhibit, which consists mostly of items from his own collection. The displays cover images, advertising materials and artifacts from the fair, and from other events held on the grounds, dating back all the way to the first fair in 1916.

“The 1916 pieces are pretty interesting,” Cecchi said. “I met with Gene Cassidy over at the Exposition, and they were pretty impressed.”

One of the more interesting items, Cecchi said, is a brochure for a new housing development called Exposition View — today known as Reed Street in Agawam. Home builders were touting the neighborhood’s proximity to the fair, including the large trolley station serving the exposition grounds.

The items on loan at the museum exhibit do not include any from the Eastern States Exposition’s own archives — those are being held in reserve for the centennial exhibit at the Big E itself.

Cecchi said the exhibit was relatively easy to put together, because he had already reviewed and organized his Big E collection while assembling his forthcoming book about Big E history. The book, part of the “Images of America” series from Arcadia Publishing, should be published in late summer, hopefully in time for the centennial Big E.

The book will be similar in size and format to Cecchi’s previous books of historical photographs, “Agawam and Feeding Hills” and “Agawam and Feeding Hills Revisited.” He said even



David Cecchi stands next to a display case of items from the 1916 Eastern States Exposition — the first “Big E” — exhibited at the Agawam Historical and Fire House Museum on Sunday. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS
PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

the Big E’s administrators were surprised by some of the images he was able to uncover.

Big E memorabilia will remain on exhibit at the museum for the remainder of the 2016 season, which consists of four more open dates: noon to 3 p.m. Monday, May 30; 1-4 p.m. Sunday, June 26; 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15.

The museum, in the former No. 3 Fire House at 35 Elm St., Agawam, houses a collection of artifacts showcasing the town’s history, including firefighting equipment and two fire trucks. For more information, visit www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com or follow it on Facebook.

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

7 p.m. Monday, May 2, Roberta G. Doering
School, 68 Main St., Agawam

- A. Roll call
- B. Moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Citizen’s speak time
- D. Minutes
- 1. Regular council meeting — April 4, 2016
- 2. Special Joint Meeting — April 12, 2016
- 3. Regular Council Meeting — April 19, 2016
- E. Declaration from council president
- F. Presentation of Petitions and Resolutions

1. TR-2016-26- A Resolution requesting the Agawam City Council petition for the enactment of Special Municipal Legislation changing the process to fill a vacancy on the School Committee (Mayor Cohen with Councilors George Bitzas, James Cichetti and Richard Theroux) (Referred to Legislative Committee)

2. TR-2016-27- A Resolution declaring approximately 2,634 square feet of area of property located at Murphy’s Pub at the Southwest Corner of Mill and Suffield Street available for disposition and sale to Murphy’s Pub (Mayor) (Referred to Community Relations)

3. TR-2016-28- A Resolution confirming the reappointment of Richard Bennett, 29 Willowbrook Drive, Agawam, MA to the Community Preservation Act Committee to a term expiring April 30, 2019 (City Council)

- G. Report of council committees
- H. Elections
- I. Public hearings

1. (PH-2016-3) TR-2016-25- A Resolution adopting the Fiscal Year 2017-2021 Capital Improvement Program — Public hearing date set for June 6, 2016 (Mayor) (Referred to Finance Committee)

- J. Old business

TOR-2016-2- An ordinance to amend the code of the Town of Agawam amending the Agawam Housing Committee (Mayor) (1 of 2 Readings) (Referred to Legislative Committee) (Tabled 4/19/16)

2. TO-2016-12- Order granting or renewing a license for an Automatic Amusement Device(s) for Six Flags New England located at 1623 Main St., Agawam, MA. (Clerk) (Referred to Administrative Committee)

3. TO-2016-13- Order granting or renewing a permit for Weekly Amusement for Six Flags New England located at 1623 Main St., Agawam, MA. (Clerk) (Referred to Administrative Committee)

- K. New business: Unavailable at press time.

L. Any other matter that may legally come before the City Council.
Adjournment

DEATH NOTICES

Bobceki, Edward A.
Died April 22
Funeral April 27
Agawam Funeral Home, Inc.

Carestia, Raymond M.
Died April 14
Funeral April 22
Agawam Funeral Home, Inc.

Karpovich, Nancy T.
Died April 15
Funeral April 23
Firtion-Adams Funeral Service
Westfield

Walsh, Agnes
Died April 19
Funeral April 22
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam

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TUESDAY, JUN. 7
White Flower Farm
Morris, CT

THURSDAY, JUL. 28
Jewels: New York City Ballet in Saratoga
Saratoga Performing Arts Center
Saratoga Springs, NY

TUESDAY, AUG. 9
Puccini’s La Bohème
The Glimmerglass Festival
Cooperstown, NY

THURSDAY, OCT. 27
Chasing Rainbows: The Road to Oz
Goodspeed Opera House
East Haddam, CT

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Traffic often backs up along Springfield Street west of the entrance to Granger School, adding to the congestion of the Feeding Hills Center intersection. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

ROAD ■ from page 1

researched for the school area, Cohen said the entrance to Granger School is consistently congested each school day during arrival, and especially during dismissal times. He said waiting a year is worth it to avoid a potential accident.

“I know it is going to be a delay,” said Cohen. “But this is something we want to get right so that it is much safer for everyone.”

Town Engineer Michelle Chase, who has been working with MassDOT on the project, agreed that adding Granger School to the project is a crucial need for the area.

“There [are] often cars that are lining up both in the school driveway and on the roadway,” said Chase. “It is not safe for the kids or the parents coming to pick them up.”

Last year, the town received a \$500,000 grant, which was used to hire design firm Milone and MacBroom to develop a plan for an improved Feeding Hills Center intersection. Engineers reached the “25 percent design” mark before deciding to include Granger School in the project.

The project had been scheduled as part of the fiscal 2017 Transportation Improvement Program funded by the state — the year beginning July 1, 2016. The mayor said

though the project construction itself will be delayed for six months to a year, the state still fully intends to fund the project.

Original estimates of the project’s cost were \$1.5 million. Cohen said some rough estimates had the Granger School improvements costing an additional \$500,000 to \$800,000. Chase said it is possible, depending on the improvement that MassDOT approves, that the town may have to pay for a “small fraction” of the improvements.

Chase said the conceptual plans are still in the early stages, but a widened entrance, and more spaces for vehicles to park in both entrances to the school, will be among the improvements. Better sidewalks and possibly a bike line, which are both in line with the “complete streets” approach to roadways adopted by the City Council, are also considerations.

The Feeding Hills Center intersection improvements will include the widening of street at the intersection, as well as established turn lanes and left-turn signals in all directions. The idea is to make the intersection run more efficiently. The intersection has frequent truck traffic, as it is one of the few truck routes between the Springfield area and Southwick.

Auditions this weekend for Shakespeare play

In celebration of the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare’s death and continuing the 25th season of the Red Door Theatre, the theater is holding auditions for its upcoming production of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” directed by Lyle Pearsons.

Auditions will be held at the theater at 152 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills, from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday, May 1. Auditions are open to those 15 years and older. Adults are urged to audition. Experience with Shakespeare is not a requirement. Those auditioning will do a short scene from the play. A prepared monologue is not necessary, but will be given consideration.

Performances are scheduled for June 24 and 25 at 6 p.m. and June 26 at 2 p.m., and

will be held outside on the lawn. Audience members are invited to bring a blanket and picnic. A special section will be designated for those who have high-back lawn chairs. The playground will not be available for small children. Parents are reminded this is not Tiny Tales.

In case of inclement weather, the performance will move indoors. The first 120 people to arrive will be allowed into the theater. There is no charge for the 90-minute abridged play; however, a donation bag will be passed at the end for those who would like to contribute.

For more information, visit reddoortheatre.com or call the box office at 413-789-2026.

Congregational Church news, upcoming events

The public is invited to attend the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., “a place to call home — a people to call family.” Worship service is at 10 a.m. Sunday mornings with a children’s message, church school and fellowship and coffee hour following. Playgroup meets Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and is open to the public. It follows the Agawam public schools schedule.

Sunday, May 1: Family Communion Worship Service and coffee hour. No church school today, children receive communion. CROP Walk today. Campership raffle tickets available for purchase.

Wednesday, May 4: 7 p.m., Bible study with Pastor Greg.

Sunday, May 8: Mother’s Day. Worship service, church school and coffee fellowship hour. Campership raffle tickets sale and drawing.

Monday, May 9: 6:30 p.m., Trustees meeting.

Wednesday, May 11: 7 p.m., Deacons meeting.

Saturday, May 14: Church Clean-up Day.

Sunday, May 15: Pentecost Family Worship Service, Confirmation, no church school or coffee hour. Faithful Friends to-

day. **Monday, May 16:** 4 p.m., Loaves & Fishes.

Wednesday, May 18: 7 p.m., Bible Study with Pastor Greg.

Saturday, May 21: 7:30 a.m., Men’s Ministry meeting at Bobbie J’s.

Sunday, May 22: Worship service, church school and coffee fellowship hour.

Monday, May 23: 7 p.m., Women’s Ministry meeting.

Tuesday May 24: 7 p.m., Council meeting.

Wednesday, May 25: 9 a.m., Newsletter collation (in church office); 7 p.m., “Let Us Gather” prayer time.

Sunday, May 29: Memorial Day Worship Service, no church school, coffee hour.

Monday, May 30: Church office closed for holiday.

Pastor Greg E. Dawson is available for prayer after the service. The church offers many programs, special family activities, trips, picnics and more. Newcomers are welcome and members of the community are invited to participate in all church events. For more information, call the church office at 413-786-7111. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until noon.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Oliver __, author

6. Neuromuscular disorder (abbr.)

9. Ed Sheeran song

13. Flows in Greek Gods’ veins

14. Mounted soldier

15. Theron movie “__ Flux”

16. Greek portico

17. Buffaloes

18. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid

19. Types of bonds

21. Bura- __, language

22. Discharges

23. Principal ethnic group of China

24. Air Force

25. Dash

28. Patti Hearst’s captors

29. __ percha, trees

31. Expression of sorrow or pity

33. Kids play here

36. Fakes

38. Scottish Gaelic for John

39. Blocks

41. Split

44. DC Comics hero

45. Wrap

46. Cool!

48. Hengyang Nanyue Airport

49. Biblical Sumerian city

51. Radio direction finder (abbr.)

52. Gulf in the Aegean Sea

54. Actress Lathan

56. Class

59. Copyread

60. Blocks

61. Whale ship captain

63. Make angry

64. They product honey

65. One seeded fruit

66. Helios

67. Soviet Socialist Republic

68. Accepted practice

CLUES DOWN

1. Female sibling

2. Behaves

3. Cream puff

4. Knighted computer scientist Tony

5. Citizen (senior)

6. Blackthorns

7. One-time Yankee sensation Kevin

8. Autonomic nervous system

9. Spider

10. Flavoring

11. Colonized by Ancient Greeks

12. “Thundercats” character

14. Protestant

17. Not straightened

20. Outdoor retailer

21. Brazilian lagoon

23. Expression of bafflement

25. Male parent

26. Brews

27. Gadoid fishes

29. Gives

30. Hindu calendar month

32. Breaks up

34. Take in solid food

35. Abba __, Israeli politician

37. A breed of goat

40. It’s above us

42. British Air Aces

43. Challenges

47. He’s a bounty hunter

49. Exploiters

50. Plays music

52. Cavalry sword

53. Drenches

55. Will not (obsolete)

56. Signals

57. Carla from “Cheers”

58. Other side of yin

60. Ed Murrow’s home

62. Satirist Samantha

65. Gold

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Deadline is June 3, 2016!

NAMI seeks support at ‘Valley Gives’

Thousands of area residents will show support for their favorite nonprofit Tuesday, May 3, during Valley Gives, a fundraiser for Western Massachusetts nonprofit organizations created by the Community Foundation of Western Mass. The National Alliance on Mental Illness, Western Massachusetts chapter, asks residents for help in claiming its share of more than \$200,000 in cash awards.

Based in Agawam, NAMI-WM volunteers, board members and staff are dedicated to spreading mental health awareness and various support and educational programs across Franklin, Hampshire and Hampden counties. The office, located at

324A Springfield St., serves as a resource center for those affected by mental health issues and their family and friends. As one of 21 NAMI affiliates in Massachusetts, it maintains a resource library, literature on various mental illnesses and treatment options.

Beginning at midnight EST on May 3 and continuing until 11:59 p.m., residents can go online to valleygives.razoo.com/us/story/Nami-Western-Massachusetts and make a tax-deductible donation to support the work of NAMI-WM. All online donations for NAMI-WM made on Valley Gives Day will go directly to support its mission.

Senior storytellers bring wit, whimsy to library

The “Not Yet Over the Hill Gang” will present an evening of poetry, fiction and nonfiction entertainment at the Agawam Public Library Tuesday, May 10, at 7 p.m.

The Not Yet Over the Hill Gang is a group of senior citizen writers that are members of the East Longmeadow Library’s “Every Other Wednesday Afternoon Writing Circle.” Based on their own experiences, they craft creative nonfiction, fiction and poetry that tells stories filled with wit, wisdom and whimsy. The group decided to offer “spoken word” presentations to enrich their own lives as well as to encourage connections and empathy among generations.

The Writing Circle began when Elaine Frankonis, a published poet, decided that she needed to find a group of kindred creative spirits to keep her inspired. Two of the other members of the Not Yet Over the Hill Gang have lifelong experiences writing professionally. Betty McCann is known for the

columns she occasionally writes for a local publication and Tony Matejczyk has had an extensive career in both the newspaper business and in public relations.

To register for this event, call 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or register online at www.agawamlibrary.org. The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Party for AHS retirees slated for June 9

The Agawam High School Retirement Party will be held on Thursday, June 9, at Oak Ridge Golf Club in Feeding Hills.

Social hour is at 3 p.m., with dinner following at 4. Tickets are \$30 per person and can be purchased at the high school office. For more information, please call 413-821-0532.

WASTE ■ from page 1

the residents desperately need the jobs or lack the political power to fight a potentially polluting neighbor. Slowing down the need for new dumps and incinerators is a matter of environmental justice, she said.

Bobskill’s presentation included a video and images of consumer trash polluting nature, such as plastic items found in the stomachs of dead birds, or massive patches of garbage in the oceans.

Despite advocating for a “zero waste” lifestyle, Bobskill acknowledged that it’s not practical for everyone. But everyone can do something, she said.

“Just because you’re not sure how to get there 100 percent of the way doesn’t mean you shouldn’t move toward it,” she said.

There are people who produce just a couple pounds of trash in a year, by growing their own food and buying items unpackaged. Bobskill said she hasn’t made such radical changes and can’t say she’s that close to zero. Living in Agawam, however, she has managed to get her family of four down to five pounds of trash per week — “a lot less than I used to.”

“It’s difficult for people to do this,” she said. “I go to the store, and I still have trash.”

Bobskill, a former dietician, was a biology, horticulture and environmental science teacher at AHS from 2006 to 2014. She now runs blog, helgazerowaste.blogspot.com, and gives zero waste lectures. She’s spoken to student groups at AHS and to adults at the Agawam Public Library, and hopes to bring her message to neighboring towns.

With the help of Helga — the chicken-shaped handbag who serves as zero waste’s mascot — Bobskill on April 12 made a few simple suggestions that Agawam families could incorporate into their lives. For example:

- Bring your own bags when shopping, and not just to the supermarket
- Use cloth napkins
- Use ripped or stained clothing — buy it, if you must — as rags
- Visit websites such as dmachoice.org and optoutprescreen.com to reduce the amount of junk mail you receive
- When merchants waste resources — automatically assuming you need a plastic bag, or extra packaging, or a disposable item — politely ask for a zero-waste option. “Keep on asking, because it’s by request that things change,” Bobskill said.

John Coughlin, a Springfield Street resident who walked to the library to attend



Nancy Bobskill shares “zero waste” recycling tips at an April 12 presentation at the library. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

What’s in waste?

According to 2012 statistics, trash in the United States is made up of:

- 27.4 percent paper and paperboard
- 14.5 percent food waste
- 13.5 percent yard trimmings
- 12.7 percent plastic
- 8.9 percent metal
- 8.7 percent rubber, textiles and cloth
- 6.3 percent wood
- 4.6 percent glass
- 3.4 percent other

Bobskill’s talk, had a few of his own suggestions. He said he spends hours picking up trash from streets and public properties, such as the schools, around town. If everyone spent only a fraction of that time — say, 15 minutes a day — it would eliminate litter in Agawam.

“You have to do it, because we are destroying our environment,” Coughlin said.

Asked to name the easiest first step a family could take toward zero waste, Bobskill took aim at a disposable item so ubiquitous we hardly ever think of it: plastic straws. Restaurants could eliminate an entire category of plastic waste if diners carried their own reusable metal straws, or simply went without one.

Public Safety

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 380 calls for service from April 18 to April 24. The department recorded seven arrests in its public log. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Tuesday, April 19

John Pirozzi, 33, of 30 Cherry St., Springboro, Ohio, was arrested on charges of credit card fraud under \$250, larceny over \$250, receiving stolen property over \$250, larceny from a person over 65, and identity fraud.

Wednesday, April 20

An underage female from Springfield was arrested on a charge of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Thursday, April 21

Dominique Malique Escobar, 21, of 528 McKinstry St., Chicopee, was arrested on a charge of trespassing.

Saturday, April 23

Derli Morales, 34, of 282 Quincy St., Springfield, was arrested on a straight warrant and on charges of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, attaching plates to a motor vehicle, uninsured motor vehicle, unregistered motor vehicle, and no inspection sticker.

Matthew Thomas Gour, 37, of 206 Corey St., Agawam, was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and marked lanes violation.

Sunday, April 24

Jordan Cabrera, 19, of 129 Verge St., Springfield, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear, and charges of operating a motor vehicle with license suspended, unregistered motor vehicle, and operating after revocation of registration.

Brandon J. Malave, 27, of 77 Casino Ave., Chicopee, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct.

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 77 EMS calls from April 12 to April 18, and the following emergency response calls.

On April 12 at 2:15 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On April 13 at 11:58 a.m., the department responded to Haskel Street for lockout.

On April 13 at 1:10 p.m., the department responded to Bridge Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On April 13 at 4:07 p.m., the department responded to Raymond Circle for public service.

On April 14 at 11:34 a.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for sprinkler activation due to malfunction.

On April 14 at 2:31 p.m., the department responded to Shoemaker Lane for good intent call, other.

On April 14 at 3:03 p.m., the department responded to Route 57 for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On April 15 at 4:04 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for false alarm or false call, other.

On April 15 at 8:38 p.m., the department responded to S. Westfield Street for alarm system activation, no fire — unintentional.

On April 16 at 11:44 a.m., the department responded to Yale Avenue for brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire.

On April 16 at 2:49 p.m., the department responded to Southwick Street for outside rubbish fire, other.

On April 16 at 4:04 p.m., the department responded to School Street with no incident found on arrival at dispatch address.

On April 16 at 7:48 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On April 16 at 7:51 p.m., the department responded to Cooper Street for person in distress, other.

On April 16 at 8:25 p.m., the department responded to Hendom Drive for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On April 17 at 3:31 a.m., the department responded to Fordham Avenue for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On April 17 at 9:32 a.m., the department responded to Elm Street for citizen complaint.

On April 17 at 12:59 p.m., the department responded to Sunnyslope Avenue for citizen complaint.

On April 17 at 1:29 p.m., the department responded to Windermere Drive for citizen complaint.

On April 17 at 1:47 p.m., the department responded to Mill Street for citizen complaint.

On April 17 at 4:36 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for central station, malicious false alarm.

On April 17 at 7:54 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for lockout.

On April 17 at 8:45 p.m., the department responded to Main Street to assist police or other governmental agency.

On April 18 at 9:52 a.m., the department responded to Leonard Street, was dispatched and canceled en route.

On April 18 at 10:28 a.m., the department responded to Cooper Street to assist invalid.

On April 18 at 1:19 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for grass fire.

On April 18 at 8:25 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for citizen complaint.

On April 18 at 8:25 p.m., the department responded to High Street for citizen complaint.

On April 18 at 11:06 p.m., the department responded to Raymond Circle for emergency medical services, other.

Machos promoted to sergeant



A swearing-in ceremony was held recently at Agawam Town Hall for police Sgt. Brian Machos. Among those in attendance were, from left, Chief Eric Gillis, Mayor Richard Cohen, Machos, and former Agawam Police Chief Robert Campbell. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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Youth

AJHS Honor Roll

Norman Robbins, principal at Agawam Junior High School, recently announced the third term honor roll for the 2015-16 school year.

Grade 8: Genesis Aguilar, Shkurte Ahmeti, Arianna Albano, Sydney Anderson, Imani Barbour, Emily Banzanchuk, Madison Beaulieu, Conor Begley, Daniel Belozеров, Brianna Benjamin, Cameron Benoit, Maxwell Blanton, Emily Bonfiglio, Elizabeth Bousquet, Gianna Boyle, Mackenzie Boyle, Allison Breton, Jason Breton, Sofia Bubuz, Nicholas Buonagurio, Shannon Cassidy, Jamie-Lyn Cavallon, Aidan Chan, Ruby Chenevert, Cassidy Clarke, Kiera Cooley, Emily Cote, Olivia Courchesne, Erika Couture, Megan Crawford, Adam Dabkowski, Alexander Denisenko, Madelyn Dickinson, Sydney Dietrich, Mackenzie Douglas, Jack Dunn, Katherine Dustin, Madison Elias, Hailey Emmons, Erin Ewing, Emily Fallon, Riley Fanning, Maxwell Felix, Connor Feyre, Jaliyah Figueroa, Tessa Fitzgerald, Matthew Flagg, Emily Fontaine, McKenzie Forfa, Jack Frogameni, Olivia Frogameni, Emma Gale, Patrick Gauthier, Nadia Ghareeb, Zao Gill, Emily Gillis, Jaylee Hiersche, Rhiannon Hodovanec, Mariel Izoita, Ally Jabry, Dong Kang, Mia Kelley, Nastasia Kirik, Cole Klafeta, Anthony Krzykowski, Kristen Langevin, Eduard Lapsov, Nickolas Lavrenchuk, Payton Lemke, Julia Lescarbeau, Matthew Long, Veronika Lukin, Torin Lynch, Evan Lyne, McKenzie Lyne, Godfrey Macadangang, Ryan MacDonald, John Manale, Merna Mandour, Jessica Marino, Jeremy Martinez Maldonado, Nathan Mateus, Harrison Mendrala, Carina Menovshchikova, Zachary Moccio, Connor Montagna, Jonathan Murray, Sarafina Nardi, Andy Nguyen, Emelie Oberheim, Alexandra Oldenburg, Jailene Ortiz, Suzanne Page, Prem Patel, Mason Phillips, Samuel Polley, Ian Poulin, Geta Preniqi, Zachary Quick, Cassie Reed, Summer Reigles, Madison Rinker, Abigail Rodriguez, Jonathan Rolon, Mechayla' Rosa, Lucas Rosati, Anna Russo, Antonio Russo, Joseph Russo, Diana Rybnikov, Dzmitry Ryhal, Michael Santore, Gavin Scannapieco, Angelina Shayda, Dylan Slicch, Brady Spaulding, Esther Stepchuk, Jeian Stewart, Jihan Stone, Gabrielle Suffriti, Brooke Szafran, Amanda Szczepanek, Robert Taylor, Emma Thomson, Ethan Timms, Humberto Torres, James Typrowicz, Disha Verma, Brianna Viens, Mason Wesley, Zack Wieners, Amanda Woodford, Marykate Wysocki, Gianna Yacovone, Jessica Zhao, Eric Zheng.

Grade 7: Abigail Agron, Mia Albano, Julia Allen,

Thomas Arcelaschi, Rawan Awkal, Jacob Baeder, Emily Ball, William Balzano, Odalys Batista, Kimberly Beaver, Christian Beavis, Demitra Benard, Sofia Blanchette, Trinity Boliski, Joshua Bouchard, Madison Braska, Delaney Brown, Paige Budington, Ryan Butler, Hannah Cahill, Isabella Caputo, Madeline Cascio, James Chenevert, Kaan Cicek, Allison Cohen, Dale Consolini, Keeley Cote, Serena Croteau, Gianna Curto, Emily Czupta, David Dagenais, Jessica D'Amours, Justin Davis, Hannah Davydov, Nicole Depergola, Marissa Deslauriers, Anthony Dillard, Andrew Dzhendzheruha, Emily Ehresman, Julianna Faillace, Anna Fedotova, Cristina Ferraro, Christian Fisk, Jocelyn Fonseca, Katherine Gauthier, Chase Gentle, Samantha Gentle, Ryan Gilbert, Joseph Glaessner, Benjamin Gordon, Joseph Goudreau, Tyler Gouvan, Hope Gravanis, Julia Hall, Julia Hampton, Ethan Harnois, Daniel Harpin, Mia Hastings, Molly Hastings, Sohpie Hunt, Ashley Hurley, Vanessa Iodlovskya, Olga Iovenko, Joseph Jendrysik, Alyssa Johnson, Margaret Johnston, Elizabeth Kane, Brian Kellogg, Jacob Kibbe, Hannah Krafcik, Ciara Lamoureux, Emily Landry, Natalie Lane, Austin Larrabee, Brendan LeBlanc, Kolby Lindell, Nina Liquori, Joseph Lochiatto, Samantha Lubarsky, Colin Malecki, Stephanie Maloni, Frank Marasi, Malia Matthews, Katherine Matuza, Sydney Maxey, Brenna McAnanama, Meagan McKiernan, Siobhan McMahon, Yeva Meleshko, Erin Mikuszewski, Victoria Miller, Sohpie Moccio, Morgan Moriarty, Julia Nicosia, Chelsea Normand, Tia Nuzzolilli, Daniil Olijevsky, Myles Pires, Timothy Polevoy, Joshua Privedenyuk, Antonio Ramos, Hannah Richter, Roxanne Risley, Mackenzie Ritchie, Jennifer Ritter, Vincenzo Romeo, Sarah Ross, Christian Rua, Sofia Ruiz, Dahlia Ryan, Olivia Salva, Jackson Schlosser, Jocelynn Schmuck, Innessa Schneider, Sofia Sergeychik, Makenzie Shean, Kiley Sheehan, Vanessa Shepardson, Anna Shlemanov, Colin Shlosser, Alexandra Shur, Summer Smith, Talal Soffan, Brandon Spaulding, Giavana Spear, Emily St. Pierre, Rowenn Stevens, Diana Streete, McKenna Strong, Julia Sweeney, Skylar Thies, Rilee Tourville, Athena Trench, Connor Twohig, Josephine Typrowicz, Isabelle Uneegar, Kayleah Unglaub, Alex Varenjev, William Walsh, Jonathon Watson, Joseph Weyant, Kathryn White, Michael Winer, Kaitlin Winters, Antonia Wood, Abby Work, Sulamita Yukhimets, Jennifer Yusenko, Jackson Zampiceni, Emma Zollo.

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, May 2: Chicken bowl with dipping sauce, mashed potatoes, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, May 3: General Tso's chicken, white rice, Asian vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit.

Wednesday, May 4: Chicken filet wrap with assorted sauce, lettuce, tomato and cheese, side of pasta salad, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, May 5: Fresh assorted calzones, garden salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit.

Friday, May 6: Chicken cutlet grinder, lettuce, tomato, mayonnaise, cheese pretzels, coleslaw, fresh and chilled fruit.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, May 2: Popcorn chicken with dipping sauce, Tater Tots, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, May 3: Turkey ham and cheese grinder, pasta salad, fresh and chilled fruit.

Wednesday, May 4: Ziti with meat sauce, garlic knot, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, May 5: Turkey corndogs with dipping sauce, French fries, vegetarian baked beans, fresh and chilled fruit.

Friday, May 6: Pizza round, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST MENU ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST MENU

Monday, May 2: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, cinnamon graham crackers, mozzarella cheese string, juice.

Tuesday, May 3: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted nutri-grain bars, mozzarella cheese string, juice.

Wednesday, May 4: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted muffins, mozzarella cheese string, juice.

Thursday, May 5: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Trix yogurt, mozzarella cheese string, juice.

Friday, May 6: Pillsbury mini pancakes with syrup for dipping, mozzarella cheese string, 1 percent low-fat milk, juice.

Doering School Honor Roll

Susan Federico, principal at Roberta G. Doering School in Agawam, recently announced the third term honor roll for the 2015-16 school year.

Grade 6: Amara Agosto, Nina Baranov, Olivia Barbarini, Josiah Bass-Collins, Kannon Behrens, Susan Belozero, Virginia Caney, Lauren Carrier, Sarah Champigny, Cameron Chrisanthopoulos, Jaylina Cone, Hannah Cote, Taylor Cotton, Jaden Couture, Evan Cruz, Mikayla Curley, Evan Danek, Allison Davenport, Jesse Davydov, Emily DeGeorge, Brooke Deming, Alyssa Drumm, Ella Eastman, Amelia Ellison, Victoria Felton, Jessica Fox, Sera Gagnon, Livia Gavelis, Diana Ghareeb, Quinton Gill, Sofia Giordano, Jenel Gonzalez, Emily Gulla, Greta Halford, Joseph Higgins, Abbey Hildreth, Isabella Hill, Haley Hinshaw, Jessica Huston, Autumn Jones, Minseo Kang, Shane Kendall, Lillian Kennedy, Leah Kenny, Ella Kinchak, Pilip Kirik, Emily Kukharchuk, Jacob Kulas, Clara Laudato, Igor Lavrenchuk, Rachel Le, Elijah Leduc, Brynn Legros, Olivia Liacos, Nathan Lindell, Aurelius Liporada, Jack Litz, Angelee Lombardo, Mark Lukin, Alexander Marino, Vincent Martin, Kaycie McColley, Aiden McKay, Benjamin Melnik, Samantha Mielnikowski, Jayden Montagna, Elijah Naylor, Jr., Matthew Nigro, Rebecca Obegenski, Paige O'Neil, Summer O'Neil, Emily Ottomaniello, Jack Patterson, Grace Payne, Hayley Potter, Brooke Rising, Bella Rollend, Kaylee Sanchez, Rachel Sigafose, Gianna Smith, Jessica Taylor, Ashlyn Thomas, Dominec Vecchiarrelli, Vincent Wallace, Dylan Wesley, Ernest Whitehead, Trinity Wright, Syeda Zahoor, Madison Zomek.

Grade 5: Connor Adamczyk, Hana Ahmed, Muhamer Ahmeti, Jared Anziano, Megan Ball, Jacob Barber, Alexis Barna, Emilia Barron, Julianne Bazanchuk, Matthew Benard, Madison Bennett, Alexander Bernard, Lillian Bissonnette, Sara Bortolussi, Aeryanna Bramlett, Jacob Braska, Landen Cahill, Jack Canney, Thomas Cascio,

Ava Catelotti, Kylen Cavanaugh-O'Hanlon, Nolan Chamberland, Genevieve Charette, Kylie Circosta, Matthew Cleavall, Rachel Cohen, Sean Colfer, Owen Connery, Taryn Crowley, Patrick Dahm, Gabrielle Dean, Alexander DeGray, Joshua Diaz, Jazmin, Dunbar, Anthony Elias, Hunter Emmons, Murphy Estes, Lucas Fancy, Dylan Fisk, Ryan Fitzgerald, Emily Fitzpatrick, Grace Frasier, Nathaniel Garcia, Bailey Gervais, Cameron Gillis, Athena Gonzalez, Kendra Grady, Christina Grasso, Kaden Grover, Dakota Haggerty, Zoe Hartmann, Dimitri Heinze, Juliana Hunt, Zachary Hurley, Melina Ichtion, Lynn Jang, Diana Javadian, Noah Jodoin, Colin Jorgensen, Jonathan Jung, Angela Kuzmenko, Colin La, Isabel Lalancette, Ian Lamari, Leah LaPointe, Autumn LeClair, Nicholas Liimatainen, Joseph Liquori, Heng Liu, Sophia Longo, Sydney Lubarsky, Nellie Lukomski, Kyler Ma, Christian Macadangang, Erica Majka, Cohen Manekas, Chloe Michalak, Sierra Moccio, Alexandra Monteith, Austin Moore, Conor Moriarty, Samuel Morse, Daniel Mudrenko, Hailey Newsome, Cody Nguyen, Aidan Nofall, William Noll, Niko Nuzzolilli, Arthur Oganyan, Morgan Oldenburg, Spencer Page, Devin Paine, Arthur Panchelyuga, Mary Papova, William Parker, Krishna Patel, Anthony Pederzani, Guilla Perella, Stefanee Philips, Alina Polevoy, Diana Polyova, Dejawn Pooler, Antoine Poulin, Kenna Rainville, Lyndsey Riopelle, Jake Rising, Christopher Rondinelli, Richard Roy, Marissa Rufo, Julie Sanchez, Elizabeth Santore, Kayla Santuccci, Alexandra Seibert, Emily Sexton, Gabriella Shayda, Nickolas Shea, Kaden Sheehan, Morgan Sigafose, Gage Sperlonga, Jordan Stack, Cole Stepanik, Sarah Tower, Rafo Trudeau, Kylie Turgeon, Alexsy Typrowicz, Isabella Ugolini, Nicholas Uschmann, Kristen Vinciguerra, Anthony Virella, Dylan Walsh, Ethyn Watt, McKenna Wheeler, Tyler Williams, Muhammad Zahoor, Miia Zhupikov, Gabrielle Zollo.

Poetry contest entries due April 30

Entries for the Agawam Public Library's Student Poetry Contest are due this weekend.

Students in grades 1 through 12 are eligible to submit up to two poems. Submissions will be taken at the library at 750 Cooper St., Agawam, through Saturday, April 30. Poems must meet contest guidelines, available at the library and at agawamli-

brary.org/children.

Poems will be judged based on spelling, grammar, style and presentation, impact, and originality. Contest winners will be announced May 14. All entries become the property of the Agawam Public Library. For more information visit agawamlibrary.org/children, or call 413-789-1550, ext. 3.

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Leadership course now accepting applications

SPRINGFIELD — Leadership Pioneer Valley is now accepting applications for enrollment in the Class of 2017, its fifth anniversary class, for the 10-month regional leadership development program which begins in September. LPV follows a topical, ever-changing curriculum designed to challenge and engage emerging leaders from all sectors of the community within the Pioneer Valley.

The curriculum consists of both classroom and hands-on, experiential learning through retreats, daylong seminars, field experiences and team projects. To date, more than 180 individuals representing more than 82 companies, organizations and municipalities have participated.

LPV is seeking applicants from nonprofits, businesses and government that are eager to increase their leadership skills and take action to better the region. Applicants are considered in a competitive application process that prioritizes diversity by employment sector, geography, race, gender and sexual orientation. Emerging leaders, mid-career professionals with leadership potential, and those looking to better the Pioneer Valley should consider applying.

In its five years running, the program has filled a critical need for a leadership program that builds a network of emerging leaders to address the challenges and opportunities of the region. Fifty-three percent of alumni have a new leadership role at work, 64 percent have joined a new board of directors, and 99 percent made new, meaningful connections.

The deadline for LPV Class of 2017 applications is July 1. Applications and further information can be found at www.leadershippv.org.

Paying their respects



Students from Agawam Junior High School laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery during their trip to Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., during April vacation week. Pictured, from left, are Stephen Steinbock, Christian Rua, Matthew Hotaling and Emma Ackley, with the U.S. Army sergeant guarding the tomb. More news and photos from the D.C. trip, which was funded through donations and a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council, will be printed in next week's Agawam Advertiser News. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Agawam High School Counseling bulletin

College acceptances

Martie Faye Agravante — Stonehill College, University of Hartford; Christopher Dowd — University of Massachusetts Amherst; Caleb Hodovanec — Daniel Webster College.

Special interest programs

The STEM Starter Academy at STCC offers current seniors the opportunity to spend the summer on campus earning free college credit and learning more about careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. The program includes college courses, field trips, guest speakers, lectures, and a \$500 stipend. Contact Dr. Felicia Griffin-Fennell at fdgriffin-fennell@stcc.edu or at 413-755-4819. Applications are available in the Counselor Center.

Westfield State University is offering a free summer course to any students participating in any dual-enrollment program for the first time. Interested students must have at least a 2.5 GPA and the course must be in the common core. The dates of the eligible session are May 23 to June 30. If you have questions about the program or would like an application, please see your counselor.

Scholarship information

Students should see their counselor or visit the websites for more information or an application: The Online MBA Report; In Memory of Any Pac; Rovithis Realty Scholarship; Horatio Alger Association & Technical Scholarship; American College Foundation; Holyoke Credit Union Scholarship; Class of 1980 Scholarship; Amherst

Orchid Society; Jewish Endowment Fund; Rebekah Assembly of Massachusetts; Pioneer Valley Women's Running Club; Warrior Thunder Foundation; Warrior Thunder Foundation; 2016 Student View Scholarship Program; Holyoke Credit Union Scholarship Program; Junior League of Greater Springfield; Hood Milk Sportsmanship Scholarship; Red Pine Scholarship; Yawkey Scholars Program; The Phillips Scholarship Fund; The Michael Yasick ADHD Scholarship by Shire; Big Y Scholarship; John F. Kennedy Library Foundation; Skidmore College Filene Music Scholarship Competition; B. Davis Scholarship; Westfield-West Springfield Elks Lodge 1481; Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps; Hampden County Improvement League; Abbott & Fenner Business Consultants; Jack Kent Cooke Foundation; American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship; GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship; The Henry David Thoreau Foundation; Aspiring Fashion Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Animation Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Nurse Scholarship; Massachusetts Association of Women in Law Enforcement.

Meritaid.com: On this free website, students can complete a profile and then access the college merit scholarships that match their profile. This organization does not sell its email lists to third parties. The site includes a comprehensive directory of merit scholarships and academic scholarships across the country.

Did You Know: There are over 4,000 accredited colleges and universities in the U.S. which enroll over 15 million students and grant over two million degrees a year.

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Spelling bee is next week

Next Friday, students from grades 4, 5 and 6 will represent their classrooms in the town's annual Spelling Bee.

First and second place will be awarded in each grade. Each student will also receive a small participation award. The Spelling Bee will be held at Roberta Doering School (formerly the Agawam Middle School) at 7 p.m. Friday, May 6.

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AWARDS ■ from page 1

Tricia Bushey

Phelps School second grade teacher

Creating beautiful learning moments

Tricia Bushey was unaware she even had been nominated for an Excellence in Teaching award until the superintendent showed up in her classroom.

The award came as a “total shock,” but it’s also particularly gratifying since the previous school year had been a challenging one for Bushey.

“I had a pretty tough class with several students who needed added support and encouragement,” she said. “I was struggling to make sure each child’s needs were met.”

Staying late after school and coming in early, Bushey redesigned her classroom and integrated the center model that was introduced by Principal Noelle Colbert. It allows each student to receive more individualized attention. Her efforts paid off as she began seeing more positive learning experiences with her students.

What was most rewarding was the transformation of one boy from a child who struggled to read and write in September to one who confidently wrote full stories by June. He then returned to read a story he wrote in front of Bushey’s current class.

“Beautiful moments like that are the



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

reasons I do this, despite the many challenges,” said Bushey, who has worked in Agawam schools for seven years — one as a paraprofessional, two as a K-4 enrichment coach, and the past four as a classroom teacher.

Bushey’s willingness to try something new to encourage and engage her students is one of the things that sets her apart from others, said Colbert.

“Tricia works well with her colleagues and administration when a new initiative or idea is presented,” the principal said. “Her abundance of enthusiasm for education is contagious. She truly sets the bar for excellence.”

Shannon Oldenburg

Robinson Park School speech-language pathologist

Helping students communicate

Shannon Oldenburg loves seeing the looks on children’s faces when they can say their name or a difficult sound correctly, figure out a logic puzzle, or read a word for the first time.

“It puts a smile on my face when parents tell me that family members can understand their child,” she said. The news that she was an award winner also put a smile on Oldenburg’s face.

“I was shocked,” said Oldenburg, who has been teaching in Agawam for 15 years. “This is a very prestigious award, because it’s one where you are nominated by your colleagues.”

Robinson Park Principal Cynthia Palazzi said Oldenburg is an outstanding educator and an administrator’s dream.

“Shannon advocates for children. When she’s working with students, her work is her sole priority — she’s selfless and passionate. I’ve been so fortunate to have worked with her all these years.”

Oldenburg decided to become a speech-language pathologist because she wanted to help children learn how to communicate. As a high school student, she spent time observing different careers, including watching a speech-language pathologist run a therapy session with a young child.

“When the child read his sentences



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

correctly, the look on both of their faces is what made me decide that day that this was what I wanted to do,” she said.

Palazzi said one of Oldenburg’s best attributes is her infectious personality.

“No matter how bad things can get, Shannon faces them all with a smile and a can-do attitude,” said Palazzi. “She’s a consummate professional that each and every one of us can learn from and strive to be more like.”

Catherine Gomes

High school health teacher

Lifelong and lifesaving lessons

Ecstatic is how Catherine Gomes felt when she learned she was an award recipient.

“It validated the more than two decades I’ve spent in the system. It also validated my vision, methods, and means,” said Gomes, who will retire in June after a 21-year teaching career in Agawam. She said the recognition “puts a bow” on her teaching career.

“To be recognized by my peers and administration is a true honor,” added Gomes. She has taught grade levels pre-K to 12, teaching for the past 15 years at the high school, currently in health education.

Her work at the high school has allowed Gomes to combine her two professional “loves,” health and teach-



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

ing. Some of her proudest teaching moments have come when students tell her they have applied their CPR skills to people in distress. She said instituting school-wide CPR certification — built “from the ground up” at the high school — was one of her most challenging experiences.

AHS principal Steve Lemanski said although Gomes will soon retire, she’s still “giving fresh lessons” and remains “at the top of her game.” He added that Gomes — never satisfied by doing the same lessons over and over — constantly works to find lessons that will educate, stimulate, and motivate students.

“As a health teacher, her lessons have lifelong — and lifesaving — impact,” said Lemanski. “Cathy stays current and is able to engage her students by doing so. She is a model for all teachers and students.”

Anita Quinn

Junior high school English-language arts teacher

Helping students communicate

Anita Quinn never intended to become a teacher. After graduating college with a liberal arts degree in English, it was her father who suggested she get her teaching certificate.

“I’m so glad I listened to my dad. Teaching just came so naturally to me. It’s like I was meant to teach,” said Quinn who has taught English-language arts for 15 years.

No two days are the same for Quinn in her Agawam Junior High School classroom: “Each day brings a new reward and a new challenge.” She added that one of her most challenging moments is meeting the diverse learning styles of students — “It’s so important to reach every student.”

AJHS principal Norm Robbins said Quinn is the type of teacher every parent would want their child to have, especially in junior high.

“Anita has patience, enthusiasm, humor, energy and dedication, compassion, and a willingness to do whatever makes her students successful,” said Robbins. “The most humble of educators, she never wants the attention or spotlight on herself, but wants her students to be the stars.”

The award is one of the proudest moments of her career, Quinn said.

“I was certainly humbled receiving the



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

award,” she said. “I work with so many amazing teachers; to have been chosen for this award was a shock to say the least. To know that my colleagues have honored me in this way is really touching.”

Quinn said she has received many congratulations — both from her colleagues at AJHS and beyond. “They’ve made me feel so special. I’ve even heard from teachers and students outside our building. Winning this award shows how important the profession still is today.”

Kaitlin Reilly

Granger and Doering schools occupational therapist

Turning struggle to success

After interning in Agawam’s schools three years ago, Kaitlin Reilly hoped she would one day return in a full-time position. That wish came true this fall when she was hired as an elementary and middle school occupational therapist.

“I’m glad to have the opportunity every day to help make a positive impact on children’s lives,” said Reilly.

She decided to pursue a career as an occupational therapist during high school when her mother set up job shadowing opportunities for different professions.

“I did a job shadow with children

receiving occupational therapy services — and I knew that day that occupational therapy was what I wanted to do,” she recalled.

Reilly said working with children is rewarding every day.

“They’re resilient and it’s the best feeling to help them learn to succeed in a learning environment,” she said. “It’s so rewarding every time a child makes progress, especially when they notice it themselves or their families comment about the progress.”

Reilly said the award is significant because it recognizes the important role that specialists — occupational therapists, speech language therapists and physical therapists — play in helping students every day.

Granger principal Cheryl Salomao said Reilly is always “thinking outside the box” and thinking of ways to best help students become successful in the classroom.

“She collaborates with teachers and brainstorms ways to implement new strategies for students who may be struggling in the regular classroom,” Salomao said.

Added Doering principal Sue Federico, “Kaitlin is professional, collaborative and offers wonderful support to our students and staff.”

Reilly said students, colleagues, and family members were excited for her when they heard about her award, “especially my grandmother — a retired teacher.”



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

Cleaning the point



Volunteers work near the river picking up trash. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Abby Garner collects trash along the riverbank. In the background is the South End Bridge.



Larry Alberti scans for trash at Pyncheon Point.



Rich Narrs recovers a discarded front end of a car during last Saturday morning's riverside cleanup at Pyncheon Point in Agawam, sponsored by the Westfield River Watershed Association.



Nancy Majka picks up rubbish between the Pyncheon Point parking lot, off River Road, and the Connecticut River.



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SPORTS

SOFTBALL

Hitting comes alive in win over Colts

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

CHICOPEE – Coming off a tough shutout loss against Pittsfield High School last Monday, the Agawam High School softball team took their frustrations out on Chicopee Comprehensive, riding a five-run first inning and powering to a 15-2 win.

Last Tuesday, the Colts and Brownies got together during the vacation week for a noon game. The Brownies wasted no time getting things going as the first four hitters reached base.

It started with a single by Katie Grasso. Allison Wheeler, the Brownies starting pitcher, doubled to the gap, scoring a run, and then Rachel Lapponese worked a walk.

With a pair of runners on Maria Moccio singled home another run. One out later, Jess Lingenberg reached on a fielder's choice, and Sierra Kruser singled home two more runs, making it 5-0 Agawam before Wheeler entered the circle.

Coming off a game just the day before, Wheeler did not have

her best stuff early, allowing two walks mixed in with two strikeouts to start the first.

Comp's Allyson Desjeans then poked a single to the outfield, scoring two runs to make it 5-2. Wheeler then finished off the inning with a strikeout to limit further damage.

That would be all Comp would manage to do on offense as Wheeler was able to work through other trouble, including two baserunners each in the second and third innings.

Agawam would then break out for six more runs in the top of the fourth inning, batting around to make it 12-2.

Moccio, Wheeler, and Grasso all contributed hits and scored in the big inning.

Agawam would tack on three more runs in the top of the fifth inning to make it 15-2, invoking the mercy rule. Wheeler would complete a scoreless fifth inning to make it an early afternoon.

Wheeler overcame some early trouble and a couple of errors to work five innings, allowing two



Allison Wheeler winds and fires for the Brownies. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

SOFTBALL | page 13

BASEBALL

Agawam gets first win over Amherst

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – It was a busy vacation week for the Agawam High School baseball team. The biggest thing is the Brownies were able to pick up their first win of the regular season

At home, the Brownies were able to pick up an 8-2 victory over visiting Amherst Regional High School, with Domenic Ingham having the huge afternoon for Agawam.

The Brownies got started in the first inning with a quick run, but the Hurricanes were able to come back and tie the score in the top of the third inning. Agawam then scored two runs each in the third and fourth innings, and dealt the final blow with a three-run sixth inning.

Joe Oliver had a great outing for Agawam as he pitched into the sixth inning before being lifted for Tym Regnier. Regnier finished the game with two shutout innings.

Oliver meanwhile went five innings, allowed two runs on three hits. He walked five and struck out three. Oliver also got some great help on defense in overcoming the walks. Ingham would go 4-for-4, driving in half of Agawam's eight runs.

Max Molta also had a big game with a 2-for-4 afternoon with a triple. Aiden Page contributed three singles, a run, and a RBI.

Troy Near was 2-for-3 with two runs scored. Agawam would pound out 15 totals hits in the



Aiden Page makes contact for Agawam. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Domenic Ingham bats in the first inning for the Brownies against Chicopee last Friday afternoon.

BASEBALL | page 14

SOFTBALL

Brownies put in better performance in loss to Lancers

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School girls lacrosse team may only be 3-2 so far this season, but they got a confidence boost during a loss against Longmeadow last week.

The Brownies lost 15-9 against the Lancers, but showed in the defeat that they have the ability to compete with the perennial power.

Longmeadow has dominated both boys and girls lacrosse over the past several years, and the Lancers were able to do the same thing for the first half of Monday's matchup at Agawam's temporary home field at School Street Park.

Longmeadow would take an 8-0 lead to the break, winning most of the face-offs and dominating possession throughout the first frame.

But Agawam did not take the early shut out lying down. Agawam would come back and score all nine of their goals during a wild second half that saw 16 goals between both teams.

After finding themselves rejected on offense early in the game, Izzy Liquori, Katie Martin, and Julie Serra would all find the goal for the Brownies.

Liquori and Martin would both notch hat tricks during the second half, with Martin also contributing a pair of assists. Serra would score twice and Christie Mirski scored a goal as well. Sabrina Christie got the start

in goal for Agawam. She made 12 saves in the defeat.

The defeat improved on an 18-5 loss Agawam had suffered against the Lancers just a couple of weeks earlier. Now, Agawam will not see the Lancers until a potential play-off matchup as the teams only match up twice during the regular season in league play.

Agawam also picked up a win last week against Minnechaug Regional High School in a wild game that saw Agawam take the early lead, and the Falcons nearly come all the way back with a strong second half. But Agawam held on for a 10-7 victory.

Serra notched five points in the game, with a hat trick and two assists. Mirski was right behind with four points, two goals and two assists. Martin and Liquori also had two goals each.

Christie would make 13 saves in the win.

With the split during the past week, Agawam is now 3-2 for the season with a 2-2 league record. They have played every team in their league with the exception of Northampton, which they will matchup with this week.

Coming up, the Brownies are scheduled to take on Belchertown High School on May 2. They also have a big rematch coming against Minnechaug Regional on May 5.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports editor for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com or by calling 413-283-8393 ext. 258.

Sports

SOFTBALL ■ from page 1

runs on five hits. She walked three and struck out eight.

Comp's Mikaela Montemagni struggled to get through three innings. She allowed 10 runs on only six hits. She had control trouble, walking six, and struck out four.

Alyssa Johnson relieved in the top of the fourth, allowing five runs on only three hits. She walked one and struck out one in two innings of relief.

Agawam's offense got big games from Moccio, Wheeler, and Grasso. All three had two hits each. Moccio scored three times and drove in three runs. Wheeler scored three times as well, and Grasso scored twice.

Lingenberg did not have a hit, but scored twice. Lapponese walked three times and scored three times.

Agawam is now 4-2 this season while Comp dropped to 4-3 for the regular season.



Jenna Beach fires home from the outfield. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Samantha Stratton fires over to first for an out.



Gianna Perella attempts a drag bunt.



Jess Lingenberg tries to tag out a base stealer.



Katie Grasso connects for a base hit in the first inning.

The Week Ahead

Thursday, April 28		Girls Tennis	
Baseball		Agawam at Pope Francis (at Forest Park)	4 p.m.
Longmeadow at Agawam	4 p.m.	Boys Track	
Girls Lacrosse		Agawam at Ludlow	4 p.m.
Northampton at Agawam	6 p.m.	Boys Volleyball	
Softball		Agawam at Westfield	6:15 p.m.
West Springfield at Agawam	4 p.m.		
Girls Tennis		Tuesday, May 3	
Agawam at Holyoke	4 p.m.	Softball	
		Agawam at Northampton	4 p.m.
		Boys Tennis	
		Agawam at South Hadley	4 p.m.
		Girls Track	
		Agawam at Holyoke	4 p.m.
		Wednesday, May 4	
		Baseball	
		Agawam at Pope Francis (at Forest Park)	4 p.m.
		Boys Lacrosse	
		Agawam at Northampton	6 p.m.
		Girls Tennis	
		Agawam at East Longmeadow	4 p.m.
Monday, May 2			
Baseball			
Agawam at East Longmeadow	4 p.m.		
Girls Lacrosse			
Belchertown at Agawam	4 p.m.		

COLLEGE NOTES

Nielsen named CCC Rookie of the Week
WESTFIELD - Freshman Jackie Nielsen, of Agawam, tallied five goals this week in a pair of conference matchups for Endicott, which earned her Commonwealth Coast Conference Athlete of the Week honors.
She opened with her first career hat trick against Nichols on Wednesday, April 20, scoring on the only three shots she took in the game.
Nielsen picked up two more goals on Saturday, April 23, as Endicott took on Roger Williams. The midfielder scored on 71.4 percent (5-of-7) of the shots she took this week and all of them were on-goal. She also recorded three draw controls.

Vecchiarelli tallies for Worcester
WORCESTER - Worcester State women's lacrosse player and Agawam resident Alexis Vecchiarelli scored a goal in the second half in an 18-5 win over MCLA on Tuesday, April 19.

Lungarini scores twice for Westfield State
WESTFIELD - Westfield State women's lacrosse senior and Agawam resident Samantha Lungarini was one of five players to score two goals apiece in a 15-2 win over MCLA on Saturday, April 23.

Summer brochure available online

AGAWAM - The Agawam Parks and Recreation Department summer brochure is now available online. It is available at www.agawam.ma.us.

Rackliffe named to MASCAC Winter 2016 All-Academic Team
WESTFIELD - 375 student-athletes have been honored by the Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference with selection to the league's Winter 2016 All-Academic Team that was released recently by Commissioner Angela Baumann.
Student-athletes that compete in championship varsity sports offered by each of the MASCAC institutions during the course of the Winter 2016 athletic season and have achieved a 3.20 cumulative or semester-based grade point average during the semester are eligible for selection to the Winter All-Academic Team.
"I want to congratulate all the MASCAC student-athletes who were named to the Winter MASCAC All-Academic Team," Baumann said. "The success of our student-athletes in the classroom compliments their success on the playing field and this list exemplifies that accomplishment."
The list of winners from Agawam and Feeding Hills include: Framingham State women's basketball junior Alycia Rackliffe.

Valley Wheel Over-30 holds opening weekend
SPRINGFIELD - The Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League held its opening weekend last Sunday, and the Twins, Angels and Cubs were all victorious.
The Twins won 10-4 over the Athletics, while the Angels were 16-1 winners over the Tigers, and the Cubs topped the Orioles, 10-6.

Shriners Golf Tournament set for June 4
CHICOPEE - The second annual Shriners Hospital for Children Golf Tournament is set for June 4 at Chicopee Country Club.
The tournament begins with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m.
The cost is \$100 per person. Cost includes cart, lunch and steak dinner.
Prizes for hole in one, closest to the pin on par 3 and longest drive.
The cost to sponsor a hole is \$75, which includes company logo and name.
For more information, please contact Jim Adams at 413-627-1122 or Sue Adams at 413-627-1803.
Foursomes are going fast.

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Sports

BASEBALL ■ from page 12

game, one of their best performances of the season.

Later in the week, the Brownies had another tough loss against Chicopee High School, falling 7-5 in a game they trailed throughout.

Chicopee took advantage of a walk and two hits to score a couple of runs in the bottom of the first inning against starting pitcher Jack Bubie.

Up 2-0, the Pacers were able to add to their lead, with a single run in the third inning. They then knocked Bubie out of the game with a three-run fourth inning to take a 6-1 lead.

The Brownies did come back, however, scoring three runs in the top of the sixth inning to make it 7-5, but Chicopee brought in

Darien Rosado to finish the game.

He did so by shutting down the Agawam rally in the sixth inning, then pitching a scoreless seventh inning to finish out the game and pick up the save.

Jeff Zebrowski got the win with a four-inning performance. He allowed one run on four hits.

Bubie lasted 3 2-3 innings, allowing six runs on four hits. He struck out four and walked two. Kevin Lecuyer pitched in relief, allowing one run on five hits. He walked two.

On offense, Agawam was led by Page with two hits, and Steve Grasso with a double.

Agawam is now 1-6 and will travel to East Longmeadow on May 2 at 4 p.m.



Max Molta makes a throw over to first.



Jack Bubie pitches for the Brownies. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Legals

AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT April 15, 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Public Library Community Room, 750 Cooper St., Agawam, MA on **Monday, May 9, 2016 at 7PM** for all parties interested in the appeal of Aurelio Daniele, who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-7 to allow for the construction of an addition to a legal nonconforming structure with less than the required front setback at the premises identified as 500 Meadow Street.

Doreen Prouty
Chairperson

Agawam Board of Appeals
4/21,4/28/16

AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT April 15, 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a

public hearing at the Agawam Public Library Community Room, 750 Cooper St., Agawam, MA on **Monday, May 9, 2016 at 6:30PM** for all parties interested in the appeal of Yankee Mattress Factory, which is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-7 (B) to allow for the construction of an accessory storage building at the premises identified as 314 Springfield Street.

Doreen Prouty
Chairperson

Agawam Board of Appeals
4/21,4/28/16

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING

The Agawam City Council Administrative Sub-Committee will conduct a public hearing on **Monday, May 16, 2016 at 6:30pm**, at the Roberta G. Doering School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA on the petition of Ever-source for permission to install two (2) hex holes to re-work feeder cables and to be able to accommodate OMG, Inc. service upgrade, including permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables and wires

in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as it may desire for distributing purposes.

Paul C. Cavallo, Chairman
Administrative Sub-Committee

4/28,5/5/16

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-8600

Docket No. HD16P0366EA Estate of: Andrew Dawson Also Known As: Andrew J. Dawson Date of Death: January 20, 2016 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Susan R. Dawson** of Agawam MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Susan R. Dawson of Agawam MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of

the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

4/28/16

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-8600

Docket No. HD15P2202EA Estate of: Claire J Viens Also Known As: Claire J. Viens Date of Death: September 18, 2015 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner

Kathleen King of Agawam MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Kathleen King of Agawam MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

4/28/16

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-8600

Docket No. HD16P0182EA Estate of: Joanne M. Gamelli Also Known As:

Joanne Gamelli Date of Death: December 7, 2015

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **John F. Gamelli** of Agawam MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

John F. Gamelli of Agawam MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

4/28/16

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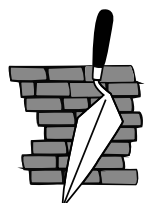


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HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x235.

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Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, April 29

SPRING BOOK SALE at the Southwick Public Library, 95 Feeding Hills Road, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

WESTFIELD HOMELESS CAT PROJECT TAG SALE today, tomorrow and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Moose Lodge, 56 Washington St., Westfield. Rain or shine. For more information, email denisesinico@hotmail.com.

Saturday, April 30

THE CAPTAIN CHARLES LEONARD HOUSE will host silhouette Artist Marcella Comerford on with proceeds to benefit the historic Main Street landmark. Reservations are required and are being taken in 10-minute increments from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information or to reserve a sitting, call 413-786-9421. Walk-ins accommodated as possible.

LADIES TEA IN THE GARDEN at 1 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St. Tea, sandwiches, desserts served by white-gloved waiters. Tickets \$12, \$5 for girls under 12, available mornings in the church office or by calling 413-786-7111.

CITIZENS RESTORING CONGAMOND plant sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the Suffield Green at Mountain Road and North Main Street, rain or shine. All profits support CRC's efforts to maintain Congamond Lakes' water quality and fight invasive weeds.

Sunday, May 1

PANCAKES FOR AUTISM at Moolicious Farm, 258 Feeding Hills Road, Southwick, 8 a.m. to noon. \$8 for adults; \$6 for children includes Joe's famous pancakes with bacon or sausage and a beverage. Proceeds to benefit the Western New England Walk Now For Autism Speaks.

Monday, May 2

STRAW BALE GARDENING WORKSHOP at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. Sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association. To register, call the library at 413-789-1550, ext. 4 or register online at www.agawamlibrary.org.

Thursday, May 5

SKYLARKZ FREE FIRST THURSDAYS CONCERT at the Westfield Athenaeum at noon in the Lang Auditorium of the Athenaeum, 6 Elm St., Westfield. Performances of swing, blues, and ballads by legendary composers such as Duke Ellington, George Gershwin, and Cole Porter.

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "Celebrating 100 Years of the National

Parks: Beyond the Grand Canyon" featuring Jack Megas, lecturer, tour planner and guide, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call 413-263-6800, ext. 488.

Friday, May 6

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL APPLAUSE SERIES will feature concert pianist Deborah Wyndham who will present "The History of Ragtime" at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. It is free and open to the public.

Saturday, May 7

Congamond Lakes Environmental Protection Organization second annual Winter's Over Party fundraiser at 8 p.m. Live music from Josh Larsen and Dynamic Funk at Crabby Joe's, 141 Congamond Road, Southwick. Prizes and raffles. A \$10 donation will be taken at the door.

ST. MARTHA'S GUILD TAG, BAKE AND PLANT SALE 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Church Parish Center, 1065 Springfield St., Feeding Hills.

STORROWTON VILLAGE MUSEUM BENEFIT ORGAN CONCERT at 1p.m. in the Union Meetinghouse on the grounds of Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield. Proceeds from the \$7 admission fee will benefit Storrowton's Early American Summer Days enrichment program, as well as its music and dance demonstrations. For more information and to make reservations, call 413-205-5051.

Sunday, May 8

TOUR THE PHELPS-HATHEWAY HOUSE & GARDEN, 55 South Main St., Suffield from 2 to 4 p.m. followed by a traditional tea service served by Mrs. Phelps. Young guests welcome to don a period costume. Admission is \$15 per person, \$40 for a group of three, \$12.50 for CTL members, \$10 for children 12 and under. Registration required. To register, call 860-668-0055 or email phelps.hatheway@ctlandmarks.org.

Tuesday, May 10

THE "NOT YET OVER THE HILL GANG," a group of senior citizen writers, will present an evening of poetry, fiction and non-fiction entertainment at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. at 7 p.m. To register, call 413-789-1550, ext. 4 or register online at www.agawamlibrary.org. The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Wednesday, May 11

BOOK SIGNING BY TINKY WEISBLAT, author of "Pulling Taffy: A Year with Dementia & Other Adventures," at 5 p.m. at Heritage Woods Senior Living, 462 Main St., Agawam. For more information or to register, call 413-789-8332 or email nicole.wallace@genesishcc.com.

"CHAIR FIT PLUS: BEGINNER STRENGTH CLASS" with the YMCA at 10:30 a.m. the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The program will focus on the fundamentals of muscle strengthening, including core and balance. All exercises include the use of a chair. Registration not necessary.

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

Thursday, May 12

WEST OF THE RIVER CHAMBER's "Let's Put West Springfield and Agawam on the Map," a free workshop in conjunction with SCORE, about getting found on Google search and maps, at the West Springfield Public Library, 200 Park St., from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information or to register, visit www.westoftheriverchamber.com or call 413-426-3880.

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "the Grand Tour: George and Belle Smith Collect in Italy," featuring Julia Courtney, curator, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Saturday, May 14

"THE SPIRIT OF SPRING," American Cancer Society Evening of Hope Gala, from 6 p.m. to midnight at Chez Josef in Agawam. The event will include a formal dinner, auction and dancing to Beantown. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Annie Hurwitz at 508-270-4749 or email annie.hurwitz@cancer.org.

A NIGHT OF MUSIC WITH KRISTEN GRAVES AND GLENN ROTH at First Church of Christ, Congregational, 81 High St., Suffield, on Saturday, May 14, at 7 p. m. Proceeds to benefit "Feeding the Children Everywhere." Free-will donation. For more information, call the church office at 860-668-7223 or visit www.FeedingChildrenEverywhere.com.

WESTFIELD GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE at 28 Court St. from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Perennials, annuals and indoor plants featured at reasonable prices, along with "garden art," flower baskets, ornaments and accessories. A raffle of gift baskets will be included in the day's activities.

Sunday, May 15

A JOURNEY OF HOPE AND RECOVERY NAMI walk-athon from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Beveridge Pavilion Annex at Stanley Park in Westfield. Complimentary food and beverages, music and a raffle for all ages. For more information, visit www.namiwm.org or call the office at 413-786-9139.

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St., West Springfield. A special coin topic will be presented and discussed. Refreshments available. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-596-9871.

NORTHERN HARMONY WILL PERFORM in the Music on High Concert Series at First Church of Christ, Congregational, 81 High St., Suffield, on Sunday, May 15, at 4 p.m. Requested donation is \$20 for general admission and members, \$15 for seniors and students. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call the church office at 860-668-7223.

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS will host a Remembrance Garden Dedication Ceremony at 11 a.m. in Forest Park on Summer Avenue in Springfield to mark the opening of the garden, the first of its kind in the United States. A reception will take place following the ceremony at the John Boyle O'Reilly Club in Springfield.

Monday, May 16

COLORING FOR GROWN-UPS at 6:30 p.m.at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. All coloring pages and supplies provided. To register for this adults-only program, call 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or register online at www.agawamlibrary.org.

Thursday, May 19

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "Blue-Eyed Doll: The Story Behind the Book," featuring author Deanna K. Klingel, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Friday, May 20

FRIENDS OF THE AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK SALE from 2-5 p.m., \$3 for the public, free for Friends members; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at no charge for all. All proceeds to benefit library programs.

Wednesday, May 25

"CHAIR FIT PLUS: BEGINNER STRENGTH CLASS" with the YMCA at 10:30 a.m. the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The program will focus on the fundamentals of muscle strengthening, including core and balance. All exercises include the use of a chair. Registration not necessary.

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS of Western Mass. panel discussion on Mental Health and Elders from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Baystate Conference Center, 361 Whitney Ave., Holyoke. Keynote Speaker Dr. Benjamin Liptzin, former chair of psychiatry, Baystate Health. For more information, contact Jennifer Higgings, NAMI-WM vice president, at jhiggins@namiwm.org or 413-439-2261.

Thursday, May 26

2016 WORLD'S KIELBASA FESTIVAL AND INTERNATIONAL FAIR today from 4-10 p.m.; tomorrow from 4-11 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; and Monday from noon to 9 p.m. at the Young & Stroh Building, Coliseum and outdoor area on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. General admission, \$10; five-day pass, \$35; children 12 and under free with p aid adult; seniors, \$3; students, \$5 with identification.

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "Hollywood: Wild West to Movie Mecca," featuring Anne Barrett, historical lecturer, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Friday, June 3

Italian Cultural Center of Western Mass, Inc. chicken cacciatore dinner at 6 p.m., 56 Margaret St., Springfield. Reservations on first-come, first-served basis. Tickets are \$15 for members; \$18 for non-members. Must be paid for in advance. Call Nancy 413-827-9350.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

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Lunch Menu

Monday, May 2: Hamburg and gravy over mashed potatoes, dilled carrots, apples.

Tuesday, May 3: Chicken and dumplings, garden salad, diced pears.

Wednesday, May 4: Roast pork, roasted potatoes and carrots, applesauce.

Thursday, May 5: Chicken and rice soup, taco salad, seasoned beef, tomato, onion, cheddar cheese, tortilla chips, watermelon.

Friday, May 6: Chicken breast topped with prosciutto and mozzarella, marsala sauce, baked potato, zucchini casserole, cream puffs (\$6).

Calendar of Events

Monday, May 2: annual art show; 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m., free Ear Masters clinic (nurse's office); 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 10 a.m., Fallon Insurance representative available; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., bingo, Sen. Humason office hours; 2 p.m., ballroom dancing; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Tuesday, May 3:

9 a.m., exercise, knitting class, sewing class, Mother's Day plant sale (dining room, cash only); 10 a.m., chair exercise; 12:30 p.m., mah jongg, movie, ladies billiards; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 4:30 p.m., yoga; 6 p.m., beginner line dance; 6:30 p.m., evening sewing class.

Wednesday, May 4: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m., Mother's Day plant sale (dining room, cash only); 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 10 a.m., Medicare health options (Garden Room), Friends meeting; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., Scrabble, ballroom lessons; 1:30 p.m., Golden Age Chapter 2 meeting; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Thursday, May 5: 9 a.m., Mother's Day plant sale (dining room, cash only); 9:30 a.m., quilting; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., pitch, open art; 2 p.m., Melody Band practice; 6:30 p.m., pitch, evening line dancing.

Friday, May 6: 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., all media art class; 9:30 a.m., tai chi; 11:30 a.m., Mother's Day luncheon; noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage.

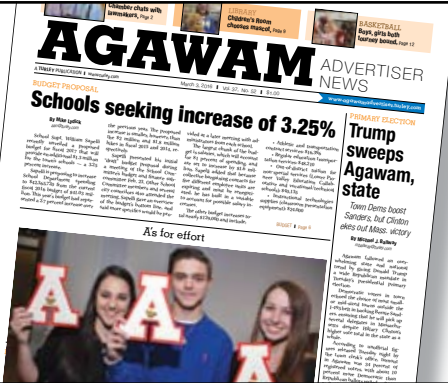


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Tag Sale

RUTLAND, MASS 20TH Annual Town Wide Yard Sale. Sat. April 30 – 200+ participants. Maps at town lines and on Common (Rts 122A and 56) starting at 7:15 AM. Rain or Shine. Join the Fun!

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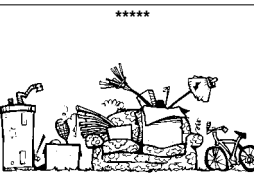
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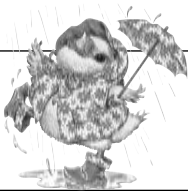
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HILLTOWNS – **MONDAY AT NOON**

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

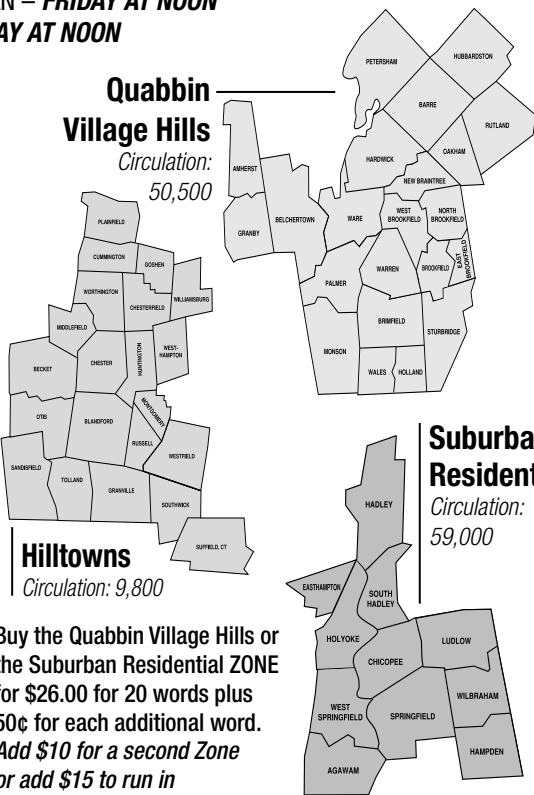
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____

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WEDDING AND EVENT PLANNER



Photos by Karen Geaghan Photography

BANQUET FACILITIES

Chandlers at Yankee Candle – Voted the most romantic restaurant and best wine list in the valley for 10 years. Voted official best family restaurant of Massachusetts. South Deerfield, MA. 413-665-1277 or log onto chandlersyankeecandle.com.

The Hotel Northampton – Pioneer Valley's only true Grand Ballroom, luxurious guestrooms, two restaurants, award-winning food, on-site parking, steps from unique shops and galleries. 413-587-8105. www.HotelNorthampton.com.

Look Park Garden House – Gazebo, Pine Theater and Sanctuary for wedding receptions and ceremonies, meetings, banquets and events for up to 170 people. 300 North Main Street, Rt. 9, Florence, MA. 413-584-2220. www.lookpark.org.

Magic Wings Butterfly & Conservatory Gardens – You and your guests will be surrounded by 4,000 beautiful butterflies in a tropical setting anytime of the year! Accommodations for up to 100 for your ceremony and reception. All inclusive wedding packages available. We also host pre-wedding and rehearsal dinner parties. 281 Greenfield Rd., Scenic Routes 5 & 10, South Deerfield, MA. 413-665-2805. www.magicwings.com.

Publick House Historic Inn & Country Lodge – We have been creating picturesque New England weddings for over 230 years. Visit us online at www.publickhouse.com or call 508-347-3313.

Sheraton Springfield – One Monarch Place. Your Weekend Wedding Destination; rehearsal dinner, wedding and post nuptial brunch all in the comfort of one location. Newly renovated, atrium style hotel with ballroom seating for up to 500 guests. Complimentary room for the Bride & Groom, Rolls Royce, Centerpieces and Parking included in all packages. Contact Kristen Muszynski, your personal wedding consultant at 413-263-2117 or kmuszynski@sheratonspringfield.com to set up your tour today!

Storowton Tavern – Storowton Tavern & Carriage House is a landmark area facility located on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition. The operators of the facility, the Calvanese family, have over 45 years of hospitality experience. They offer beautifully landscaped grounds, terraced patios and an upscale banquet facility that can serve 400 guests. For more information please visit www.storowtontavern.com. We are located at 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, MA 01089. 413.732.4188. info@storowton.com.

Union Station – Northampton's Union Station was designed by American architect H. H. Richardson in 1886. This historic train depot has been extensively renovated to contain one of the most elegant and unique banquet facilities in all of New England. The Grand Ballroom at Union Station. www.unionstationbanquets.com.

The Wherehouse? – Located downtown in historic Holyoke. The most unusual and interesting banquet function facility you've ever seen! Call today for your appointment, 413-534-3039. Visit us online at www.the-wherehouse.com.

BEAUTY & HEALTH

Brooks & Butterfield THE • DAY • SPA – Relaxed. Beautiful. Confident. Voted the Best Day Spa 9 years in a row. 140 Main Street, Northampton. 413-586-0366. www.brooksandbutterfield.com.

CAKES

Atkins Farms Country Market – For over 20 years, our cakes have been made from scratch, and we use only the highest quality ingredients. Decorated with beautifully hand crafted frosting flowers and topped with probably the best butter cream icing you'll taste anywhere. Our cake has had rave reviews from our customers from all around the Pioneer Valley where we are also well renowned for our quality baked goods. 253-9528. www.atkinsfarms.com.

CAKES

Moore Cakes – Beautifully designed and sinfully delicious cakes since 1981. Contact Karen Moore at karenmoorecakes@yahoo.com, 413-436-7350. 47 Hillside Ave., Warren, MA. www.mooreyumycakes.com.

CATERERS

UMass Catering – Premier caterer serving the Pioneer Valley with beautiful views in the heart of the UMass Amherst Campus. 413-577-1234. Visit us online at www.umass.edu/catering.

Main St. Deli – Specializing in intimate Wedding or Baby Showers in our beautiful Carriage House room. Let us cater your special event in our house or choice of venue. Reasonably priced. 141 Main St., Agawam. 413-821-9881, ask for Joanne. www.mainst-deli.com.

FLORISTS

Atkins Farms Country Market – Atkins Flower Shop is managed by three full-time experienced floral designers to assist you in planning the wedding of your dreams. You can be assured of receiving the excellent service and quality products from the floral department that you have come to expect from Atkins. Their work is beautiful and expertly done and offered to you at prices that are surprisingly reasonable. 253-9528. www.atkinsfarms.com.

Otto Florists & Gifts – Traditional or contemporary, elegant or rustic our experienced designers work within your budget to create the wedding of your dreams! Call 413-967-5381 for an appointment. 7 North St., Ware.

Sixteen Acres Garden Center – The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center has been servicing Springfield for over 50 years. Our professional staff members aim to provide a service that is unique and tailored to suit individual needs. We provide a complete, high quality range of floral products at competitive prices. The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center offers flowers that are fresh daily and we take great pride in our work. We have arrangements for all different occasions and all budgets. For professional and experienced service please contact us at 413-783-5883. Located at 1359 Wilbraham Rd., Springfield, MA. Visit us on the web at www.16acresgardencenter.com.

JEWELERS

Silverscape Designs – was founded by Denis Perlman over 30 years ago and is noted for its commitment to showcasing the work of the finest in American handcrafted jewelry & gifts. Silverscape also specializes in custom designs for that perfect piece of jewelry. Silverscape Designs is located at One King St. in Northampton, MA. www.silverscapedesigns.com.

Stevens Jewelers & Diamond Gallery – A family operated company with wholesale and retail operations. Buying gold, silver and diamonds, jewelry & watch repair, custom design & remounts. Personalized engraving, appraisals. Visit us at our NEW location 1501 Elm St., West Springfield, MA. 413-731-9800.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Karen Geaghan Photography – My life, my passion, my love! Specializing in Life Cycle Photography: Weddings, Maternity, Newborn, Children & Families. Doing small things with great love because in the end I believe it's the little things that count the most. Clients become family! Visit me at www.karengeaghanphotos.com or call 413-596-2227 or 537-3001. I would LOVE to hear from you!

RENTALS

Michael's Party Rentals – We have a tent for your event and so much more. With over 15 years of experience, Michael's is your one stop shop for all your rental needs. From tents, tables and chairs to glassware and linens we have you covered for any occasion. Call us today for a quote 413-589-7368 or visit us on the web at michaelspartyrentals.com.

Lt. Gov. to speak at Chamber breakfast

The West of the River Chamber of Commerce will host its Annual Breakfast Meeting from 7 to 9 a.m. Thursday, June 23. The event will take place at Chez Josef, 176 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam. The guest speaker will be Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito. Tickets are \$35 for member, \$40 for non-members.

The WRC gives out two \$500 grants annually. The drawing



Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito

will take place at the breakfast. Each member company will have an opportunity to win a grant to be used toward business advertising or education. Only WRC members are eligible to win.

Sponsorships and advertisements in the Annual Meeting program are available. For more information or to register, call 413-426-3880 or email info@westoftheriverchamber.com.

Applause finale to feature 'History of Ragtime'

The 12th season of the Agawam Cultural Council's popular Applause Series concludes Friday, May 6, at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library with a concert by pianist Deborah Wyndham.

Through music, Wyndham shares the history of ragtime, our nation's first "pop" music.

The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam, and can be reached by phone at 413-789-1550. This and all Applause Series events are free and open to the public. For more information on the Applause Series and the Cultural Council, visit www.agawamcc.org.

Learn about straw bale gardening at workshop

Ruth van Wijk will give a workshop on the skills needed to become straw bale gardeners at 7 p.m. Monday, May 2, at the Agawam Public Library. Straw bales create their own rich soil, generate warmth, and raise planting beds off the ground for easier access.

Autographed copies of the book "Straw Bale Gardens Complete" by Joel Karsten will be available for purchase.

This event is sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association. To register, call the library at 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or register online at www.agawamlibrary.org. The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.



Heritage Woods

Assisted Living Community
Genesis HealthCareSM

Heritage Woods is thrilled to host a book signing and discussion by Tinky Weisblat, author of "Pulling Taffy: A Year With Dementia & Other Adventures."

"Pulling Taffy" is a lovely memoir of a daughter's account of the final year living with her elderly mother, nicknamed Taffy, who had Alzheimer's.

Tinky will share their story and offer fun and helpful tips for others caring for a loved one with dementia.

Books will also be available for purchase.

Pulling Taffy



A Year with Dementia and Other Adventures

by Tinky Weisblat

Wednesday, May 11th at 5:00 pm
Heritage Woods Senior Living
462 Main Street, Agawam

For more information or to RSVP call 413-789-8332.

Heritage Woods Assisted Living Community

462 Main Street, Agawam, MA • (413) 789-8332

www.geneshcc.com/heritagewoods